



Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm



June Letter from Co-Chair

As the new Co-Chair of the Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm (CKIW), I want to re-introduce myself in my new role with the Indiana Community Action Association. Many of you have worked with me over the years and know that I have always been passionate about low-income energy assistance and weatherization issues. I have played the role of advocate and on occasion antagonist over the years working for the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, but during those years I also witnessed the power of diverse interests coming together to address the growing challenge of helping people maintain their utility service.

I believe the CKIW has a vital role in addressing the growing problems faced by so many households as energy prices rise. While natural gas price projections climb along with other energy sources such as oil and coal, our common goal must be to help people become more efficient and remain connected for the safety and stability of their households and the broader community.

As Co-Chair I hope the CKIW will continue to educate the public and policy makers of the growing needs in communities across Indiana, and work collectively to find needed resources and lasting solutions. While federal policy makers must recognize the growing needs and support significant new funding thru the Low-Income Home energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), assistance will continue to be limited and so the weatherization work must also continue to expand. We can give a person a fish or we can teach them how to fish and we must do more of both if we are to keep people in their homes and help them maintain independence and self-sufficiency.

I look forward to working with all of you on the challenges that lay ahead.

Sincerely,
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Co-Chair CKIW
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Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm 2008 Meeting Dates

July 17, 2008
September 18, 2008
November 20, 2008

Purpose: To increase public awareness of low-income energy issues and develop and implement strategies that address these issues through a collaboration of consumers, utilities, service providers and government agencies.

Conservation Corner

Keep Cool With Out Air Conditioning

Use Fans-

At night they help rid the house of the heat from the daytime sun.

Close shades and windows during the day-

At night open windows opposite one another for cross-ventilation.

Use ceiling fans-

They make people feel about 4-degrees cooler than the actual temperature.

You can save energy and lower your water utility bills by following these laundry tips!

-Wash laundry in cold water instead of hot

Hot water only needs to be used for very dirty loads.

-Wash and dry only full loads

The machine uses about the same amount of water whether you wash a full load or just one item.

-If you can, buy energy star washers

Qualified washers use about half the water and electricity of standard washers.

What is the Home Energy Affordability Gap?

In an effort to quantify the gap between "affordable" home energy bills and "actual" home energy bills, Fisher, Sheehan & Colton (FSC) developed a model that estimates the "home energy affordability gap" on a county-by-county basis for the entire country.

Introduced in April 2003 (using 2002 energy prices), FSC found in that initial Home Energy Affordability Gap analysis that the annual "affordability gap" reached roughly \$18.2 billion and that federal fuel assistance provided through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) covered just a fraction of that gap.

In April 2006 (using 2005 energy prices), FSC released the fourth annual Home Energy Affordability Gap analysis. FSC found that the shortfall between actual home energy bills and affordable home energy bills had increased to \$23.2 billion, an increase of twenty-seven percent (27%) in just four years.

Home Energy Affordability Gap Ranking:

Dollar Gap per Household by State
April 2008

http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/downloads/2007_Rel eased_Apr08/2007%20HH%20Gap%20by%20State.pdf

On the Brink: 2007

The Home Energy Affordability Gap April 2008

http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/downloads/2007_Rel eased_Apr08/2007%20Census%20Fact%20Sheets.pdf

Home Energy Affordability Gap Ranking:

Energy Burden at Less Than 50% FPL by State April 2008

http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/downloads/2007_R eleased_Apr08/2007%20Burden%20LT50%20FPL.pdf

Coalition to Keep Indiana Warm

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THINK! ENERGY

Citizens Gas recently expanded their energy efficiency education program to employees. The sessions were conducted by the National Energy Foundation, a unique 501 (c) 3 nonprofit educational organization dedicated to cultivating and promoting an energy literate society.

All field service and customer service employees attended an education session focused on energy titled **THINK! ENERGY**. The session was offered as an interactive guide to provide employees with the basic tools necessary to assist customers with their energy efficiency needs. Each participant received an energy efficiency kit to use at home and a quick “how to” as a part of the training. Each kit included a 14 w CFL, high efficiency showerhead, kitchen aerator, light switch sticker, scratch n’ sniff sticker and filter tone alarm.

The goals of the program were to have employees **THINK** about energy, **TALK** about energy and **TAKE** action in their own homes. All service employees hearing the same message allows for more consistency between the office and the field when responding to customers. For more information on the National Energy Foundation, go to www.neffl.org.

EIA raises 2008 price forecast by 13.3% to \$11

Rising oil prices, flagging liquefied natural gas imports and a gas storage inventory deficit continue to force gas prices higher, the Energy Information Administration said June 10 as it hiked its Henry Hub spot price projection for the second quarter by 11% to \$11.32/Mcf.

[www.platts.com/Natural
gas/highlights/2008/ngp_gd_061108.xml](http://www.platts.com/Natural_gas/highlights/2008/ngp_gd_061108.xml)